



Arizona Department of Public Safety

- For Immediate Release -

Thursday, July 24, 2008

Arizona Department of Public Safety's Violent Criminal Apprehension Team apprehends fugitive wanted on several felony warrants

On July 23, 2008, at 7:45 p.m., Officers from the Violent Criminal Apprehension Team (VCAT) arrested 20-year-old Justin Christoffers at his mother's residence in Ahwatukee (4101 E. La Puente). Christoffers was wanted for two counts of misconduct involving weapons, theft and burglary out of Maricopa County Superior Court.

Christoffers was using My Space to advertise the sale of stolen weapons. Christoffers was also bragging about committing burglaries in his neighborhood. Phoenix Police believe Christoffers was a suspect in numerous burglaries in the area and had previously arrested him. At the time of his arrest, Christoffers was trying to jump the back wall of the house.

Christoffers faces four warrants and revocation of his intensive probation. Christoffers is a convicted felon and can not be in possession of any firearms. He also may face charges for being in possession of firearms.

On May 12, 2008, Governor Janet Napolitano directed the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) to develop a multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional statewide plan to identify and arrest individuals with outstanding felony warrants. In response, DPS has created VCAT- the Violent Criminal Apprehension Team. Since the middle of May, VCAT efforts have resulted in the arrest of more than **123** fugitives.

"This is truly excellent work by VCAT. Taking dangerous offenders off the streets is the goal. By combining resources, including intelligence gathering resources and manpower, VCAT is working everyday to get these fugitives behind bars and to make neighborhoods safe," said Roger Vanderpool, director of the Arizona Department of Public Safety

photos of Christoffers and the seized weapons are available upon request

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